



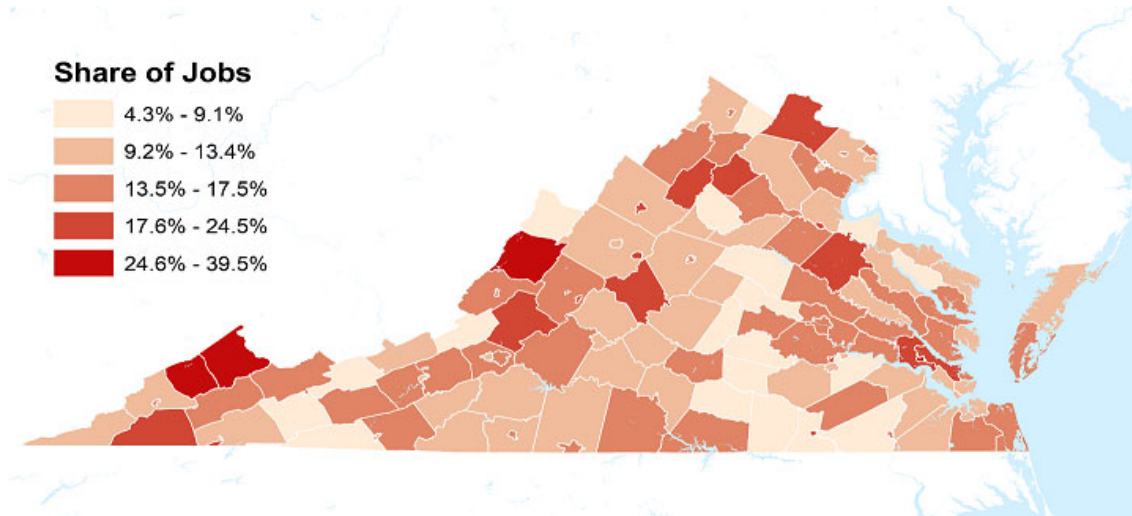
Open For Business...At A Distance

Last week we finished moving our team into all-remote at work. A small portion of that move has involved taking up inside projects (e.g. administrative, writing) that were perhaps stuck on the back burner. However, most of what's keeping us busy right now are more than a dozen externally facing projects and initiatives. Some timelines and deliverables are shifting because of social distancing or the recession, but the work continues at a pace that if anything is

even faster than before — and perhaps half a dozen new proposals are in the pipeline.

[Read More](#)

<https://blogs.tlos.vt.edu/cece/2020/04/08/open-for-business-at-a-distance/>



Disparate Impact of COVID-19 Across Virginia

While COVID-19 is shaking the entire economy across the country, some regions might experience more severe symptoms than others. Knowing which places are likely to be hit the hardest can ensure a better response for recovery in this crucial time. To illustrate the different impacts of COVID-19 on local economies in Virginia, the Virginia Tech Office of Economic Development mapped the job shares of industries with the highest risks of being adversely affected by the pandemic. This approach is borrowed from the Brookings Institute's analysis of most affected metropolitan areas.

[Read More](#)

<https://blogs.tlos.vt.edu/cece/2020/04/09/disparate-impact-of-covid-19-across-virginia/>



Virginia Tech Researchers Team up with NRV Drug Courts to Address Opioid Epidemic

Starting this spring, Virginia Tech's Office of Economic Development will be working with the [Virginia Tech Institute for Policy and Governance \(IPG\)](#) and the [Virginia Tech Center for Public Health Practice & Research \(CPHPR\)](#) to examine the impacts of drug courts in the New River Valley. Researchers will study four adult drug treatment courts in Floyd, Giles, Montgomery, and Pulaski counties, examining how these local drug courts operate differently and aiming to discover the effect on individual participants, drug court collaborative partners, and local governments and regional authorities.

Read More

<https://blogs.tlos.vt.edu/cece/2020/03/25/virginia-tech-researchers-team-up-with-nrv-drug-courts-to-address-opioid-epidemic/>

Office Updates



OED Welcomes a New Team Member

Ceara Redd recently joined the OED Team as a Student Researcher. Ceara is an accelerated master's student in Urban and Regional Planning in the School of Public and International Affairs at Virginia Tech. As an undergraduate senior, Ceara double majors in Environmental Policy and Planning, her primary major, and Philosophy, her secondary major. Ceara is interested in combating environmental and social issues through policy and law. She would like to explore avenues to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and address issues of displacement and transnational migration. Additionally, Ceara serves as an ambassador for her college, the College of Architecture and Urban Studies, and she is a member of Students for Sustainable Practice at Virginia Tech.